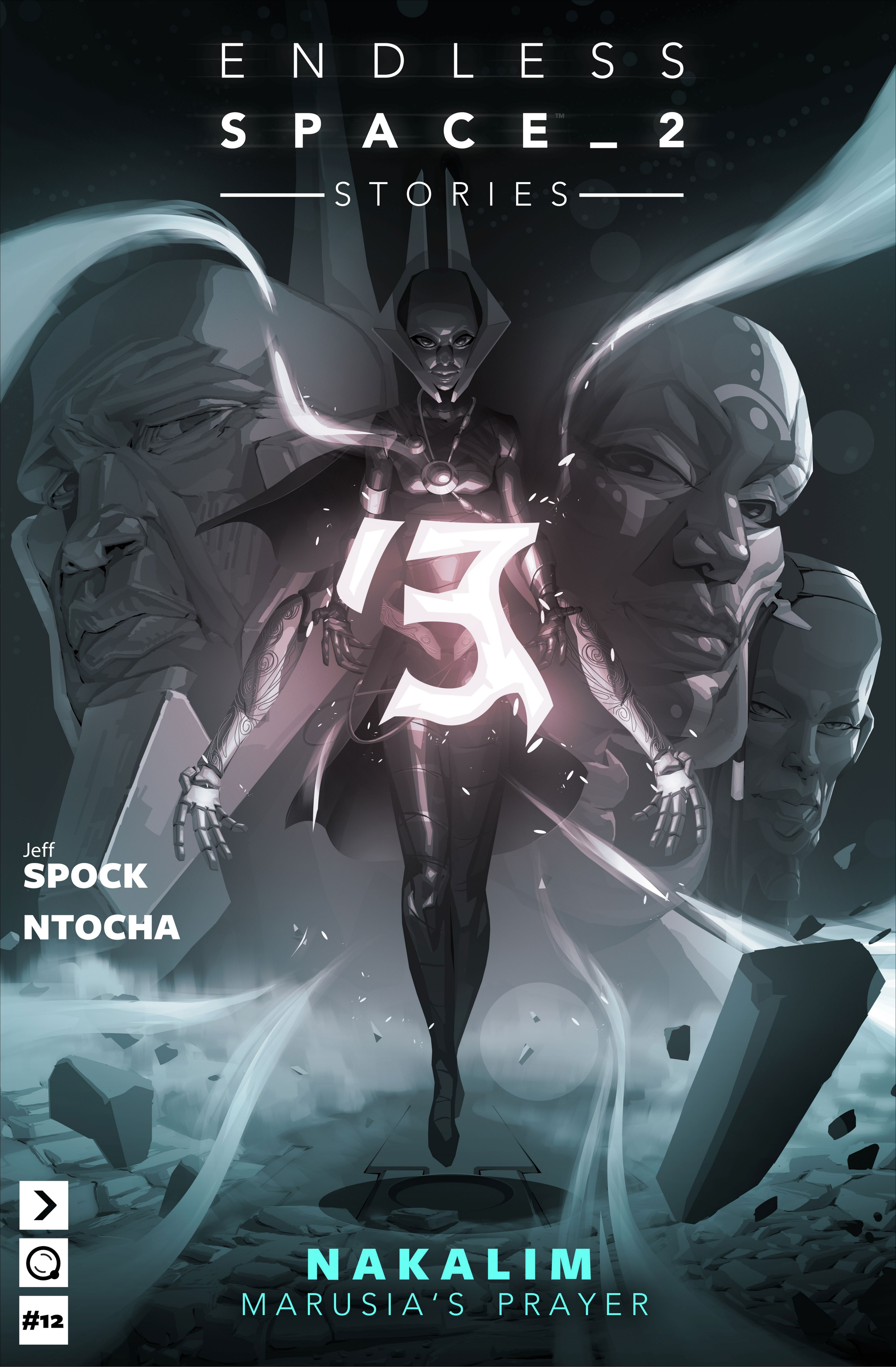
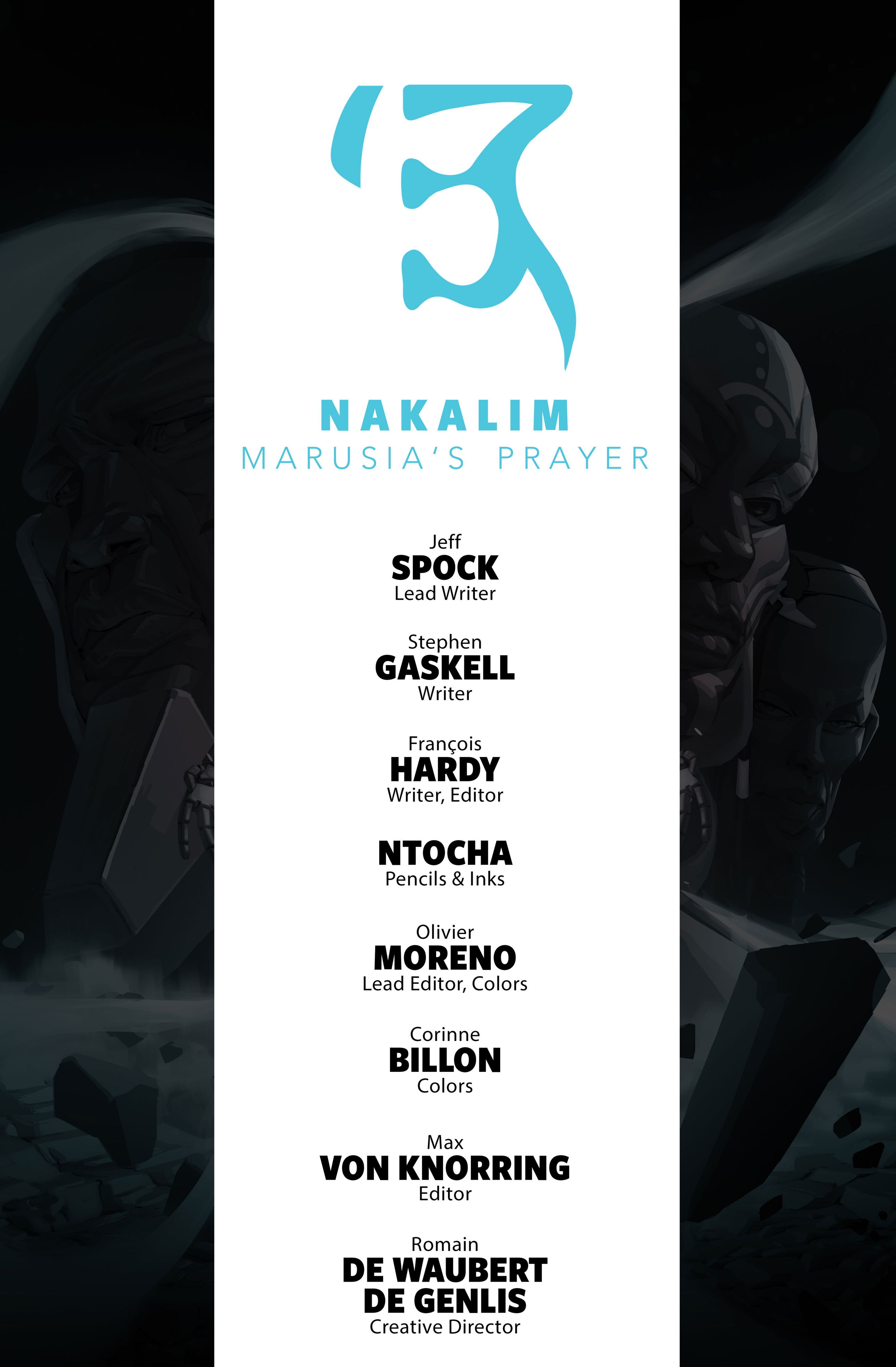

ENDLESS
SPACE™ 2
STORIES
13
Jeff
SPOCK
NTOCHA
NAKALIM
MARUSIA'S PRAYER
#12


'3
NAKALIM
MARUSIA'S PRAYER
Jeff
SPOCK
Lead Writer
Stephen
GASKELL
Writer
François
HARDY
Writer, Editor
NTOCHA
Pencils & Inks
Olivier
MORENO
Lead Editor, Colors
Corinne
BILLON
Colors
Max
VON KNORRING
Editor
Romain
DE WAUBERT
DE GENLIS
Creative Director

WE DID NOT REQUEST THIS AUDIENCE LIGHTLY, YOUR EXCELLENCY.

THERE IS A DIRE SITUATION WE MUST ADDRESS.

FATHER. MOTHER... I MUST START FROM THE BEGINNING.

THE INFORMATION CENTER ON MASYON LOST DATABASE INTEGRITY.

WE... WERE EMBARRASSED TO REALIZE WE DID NOT KNOW HOW IT WAS MAINTAINED BEFOREHAND-

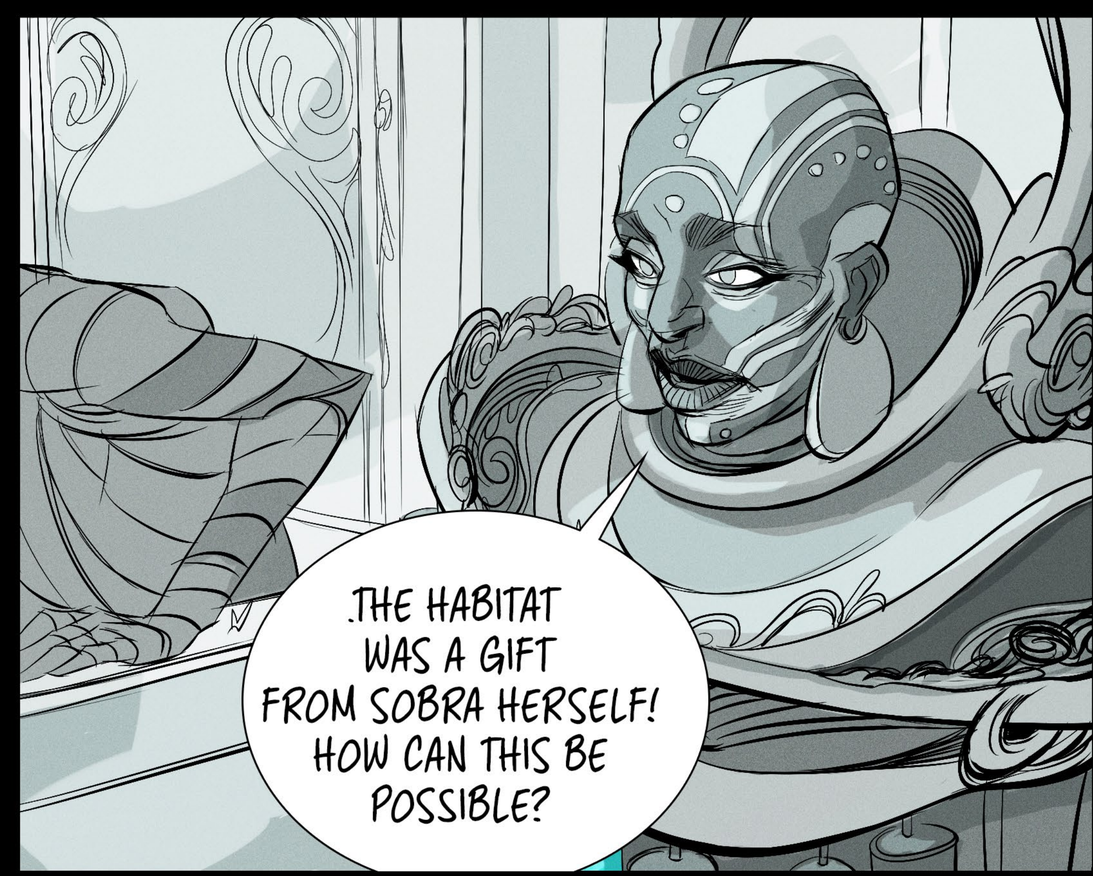
SO WE IGNORED IT. SIX MONTHS LATER, WE LOST THE QUANTUM COMMUNICATION RELAYS TO THE VELA CONSTELLATION.

OF COURSE, EVERY REIGN HAS ITS PROBLEMS. YOU WILL COME TO KNOW THIS. PERHAPS TOO WELL.

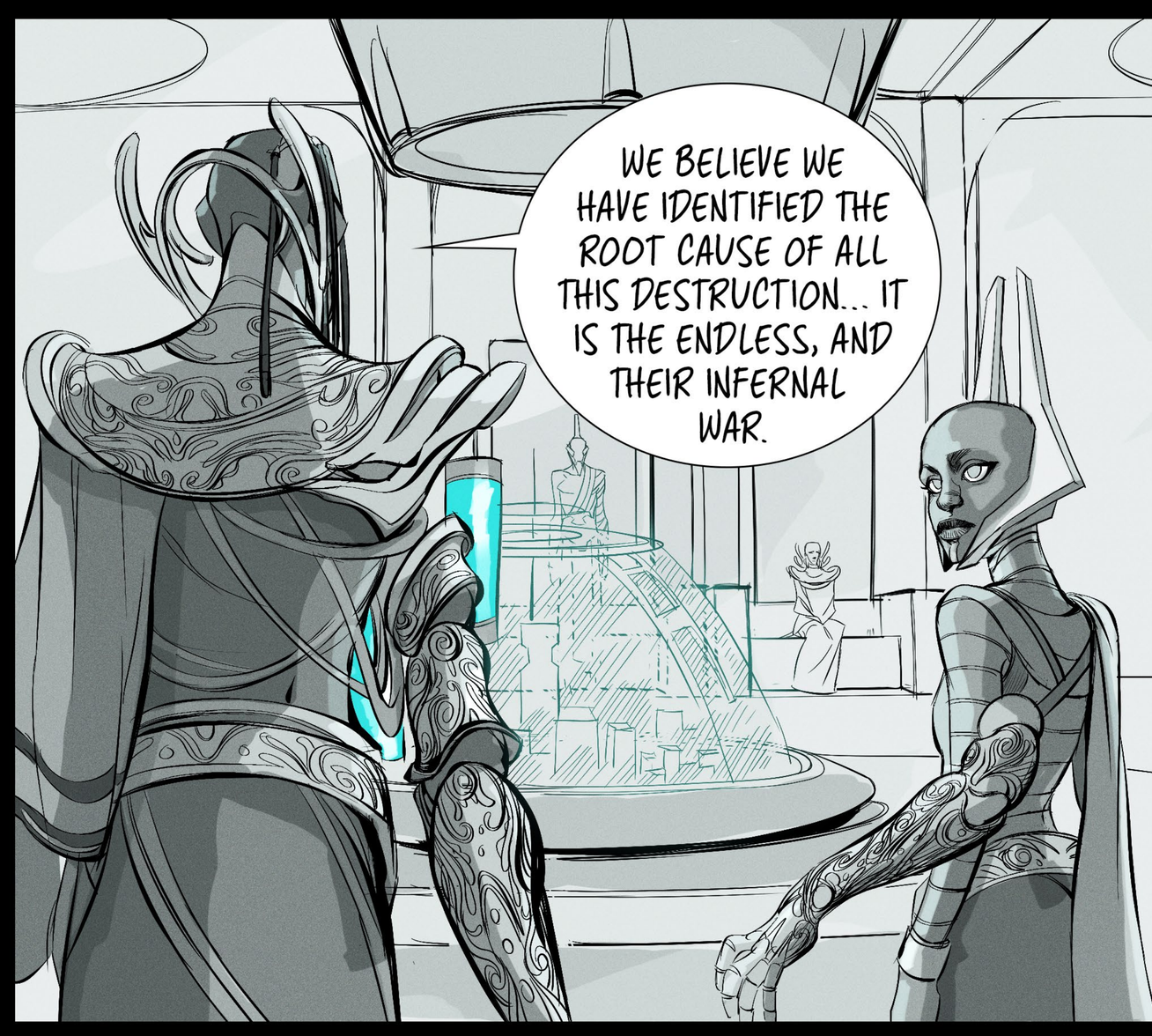
TECHNOLOGY CHANGES. OLD TECHNOLOGIES FAIL; THE GODDESS SOBRA BLESSES US WITH NEW ONES. THAT IS THE WAY OF THE CHURCH, OF THE NAKALIM.

SO IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN. UNTIL ENDURING COHORT, THE FLEET ON GANO, LOST POWER TO THEIR HABITAT DOME.

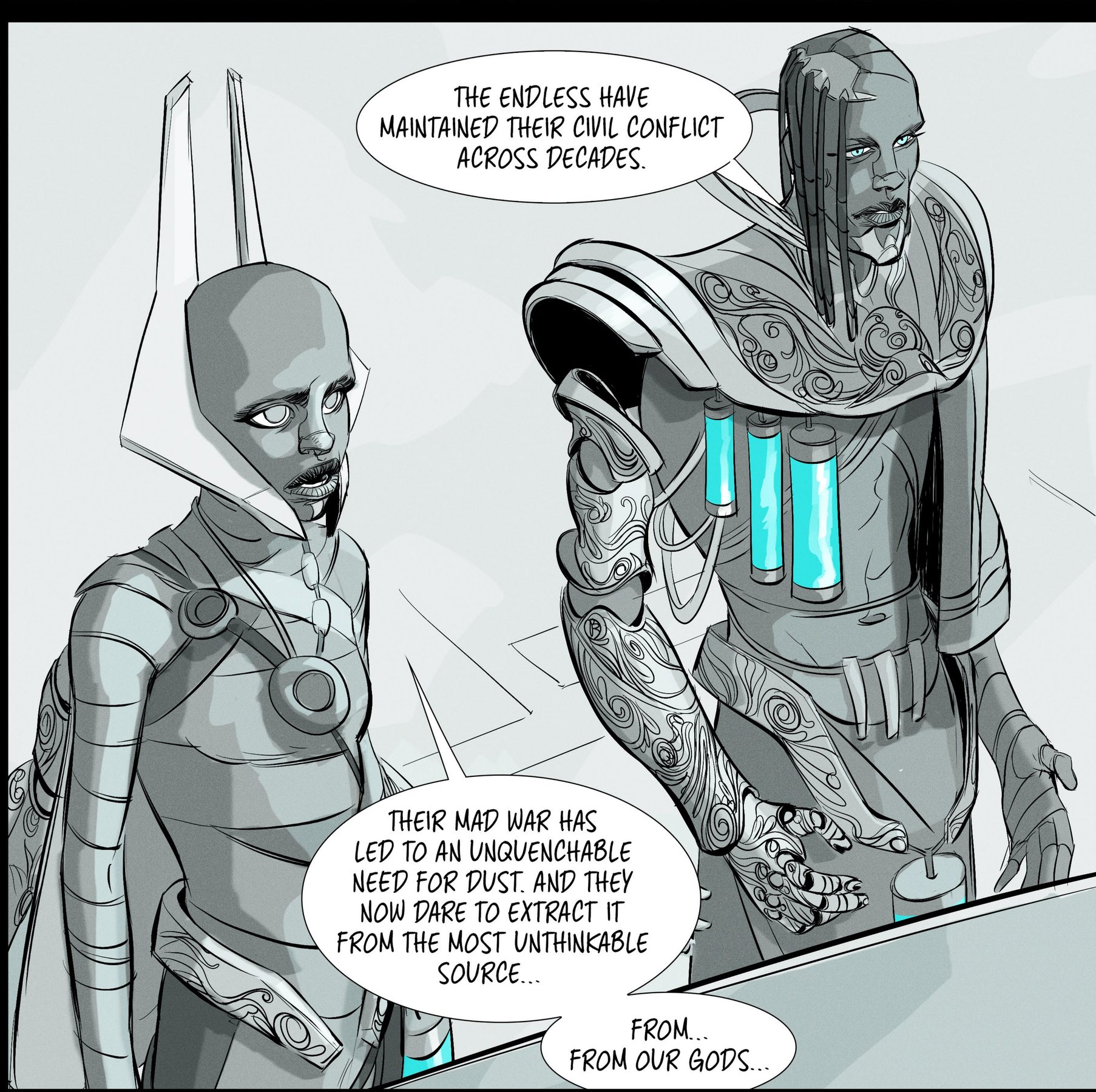
...EVENTUALLY IT FAILED COMPLETELY.

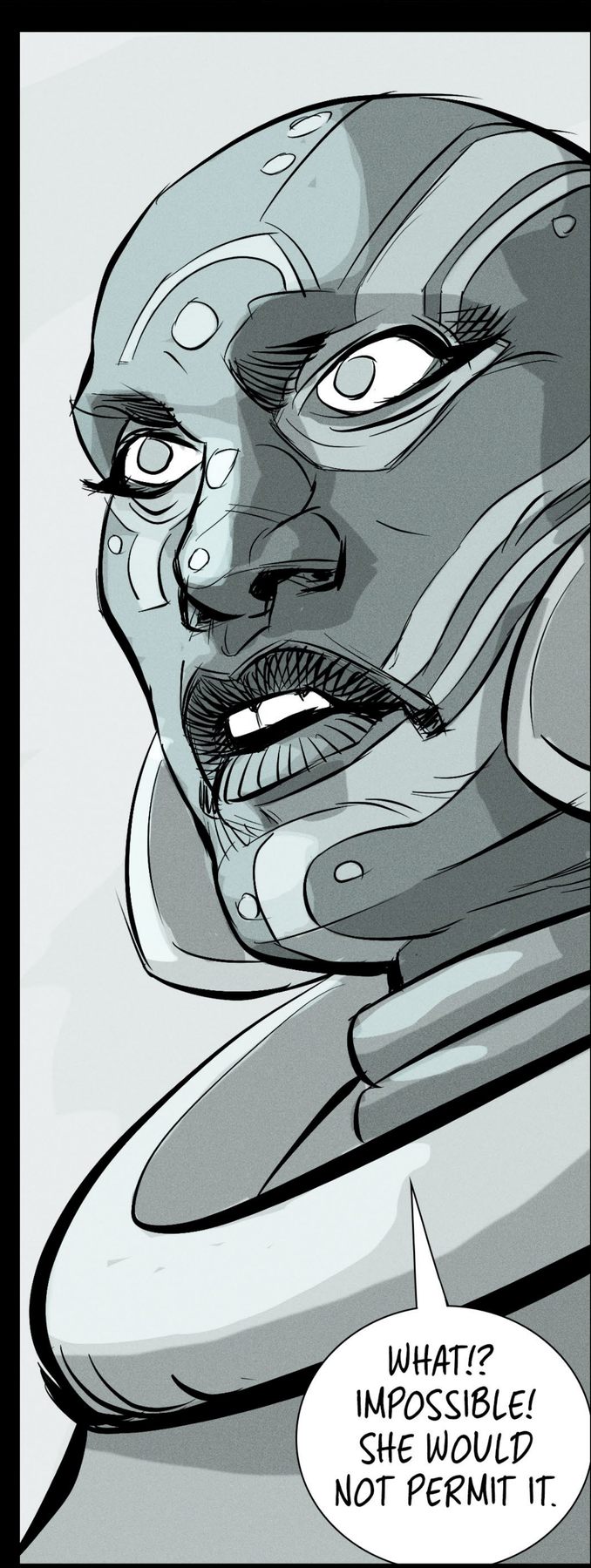

.THE HABITAT WAS A GIFT FROM SOBRA HERSELF! HOW CAN THIS BE POSSIBLE?

I WANT ANSWERS TO THIS. NOW. MARUSIA? MINISTER?


WE BELIEVE WE HAVE IDENTIFIED THE ROOT CAUSE OF ALL THIS DESTRUCTION... IT IS THE ENDLESS, AND THEIR INFERNAL WAR.

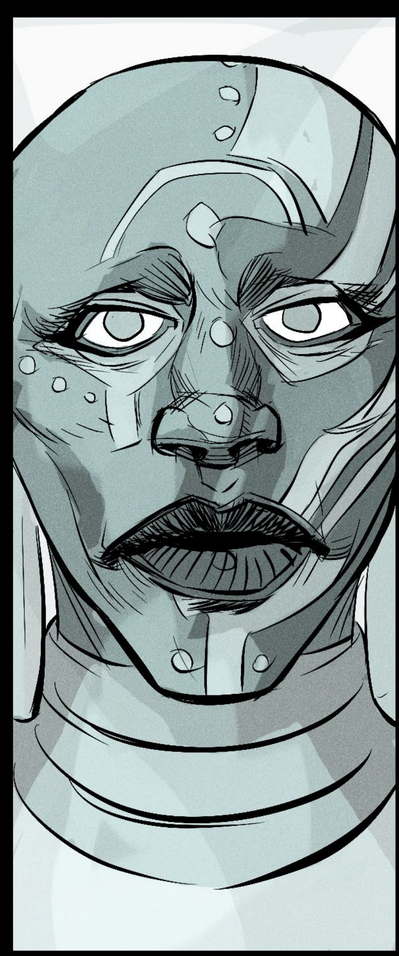
WHAT DO THE ENDLESS HAVE TO DO WITH US?

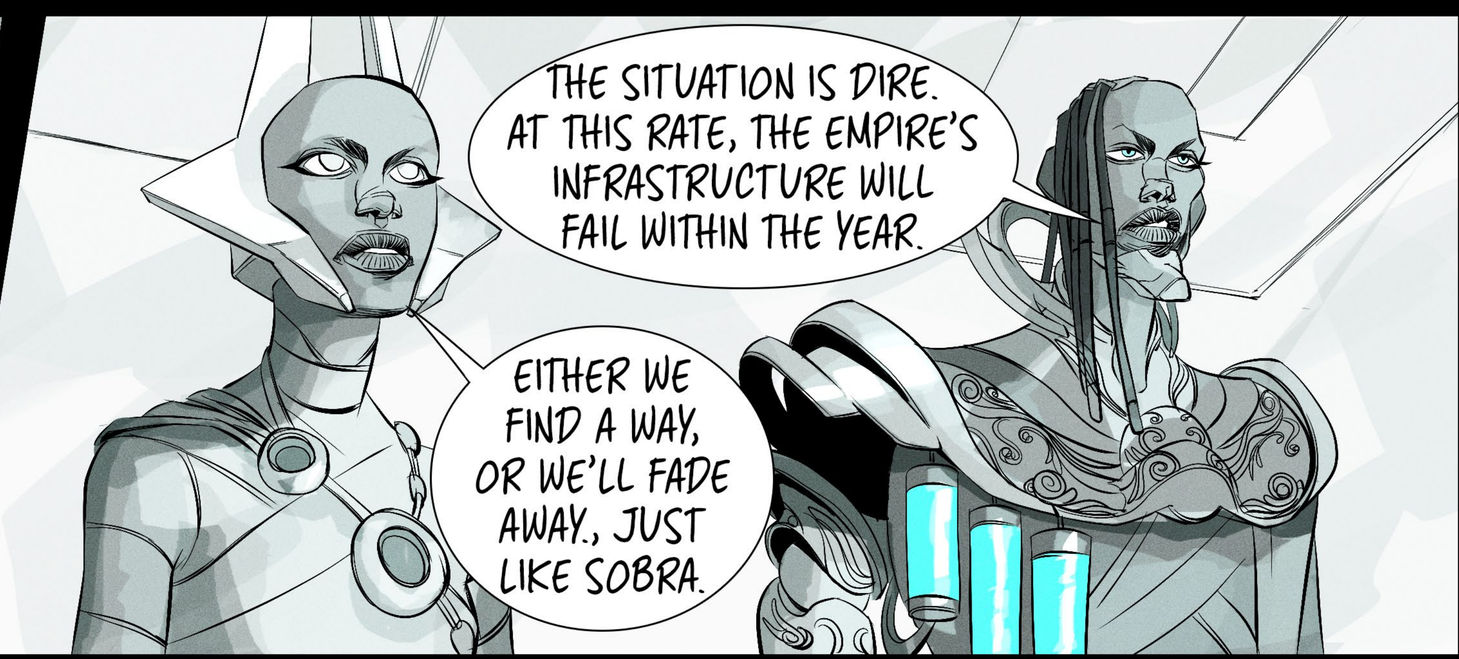

THE ENDLESS HAVE MAINTAINED THEIR CIVIL CONFLICT ACROSS DECADES.
THEIR MAD WAR HAS LED TO AN UNQUENCHABLE NEED FOR DUST. AND THEY NOW DARE TO EXTRACT IT FROM THE MOST UNTHINKABLE SOURCE...
FROM... FROM OUR GODS...


WHAT!? IMPOSSIBLE! SHE WOULD NOT PERMIT IT.

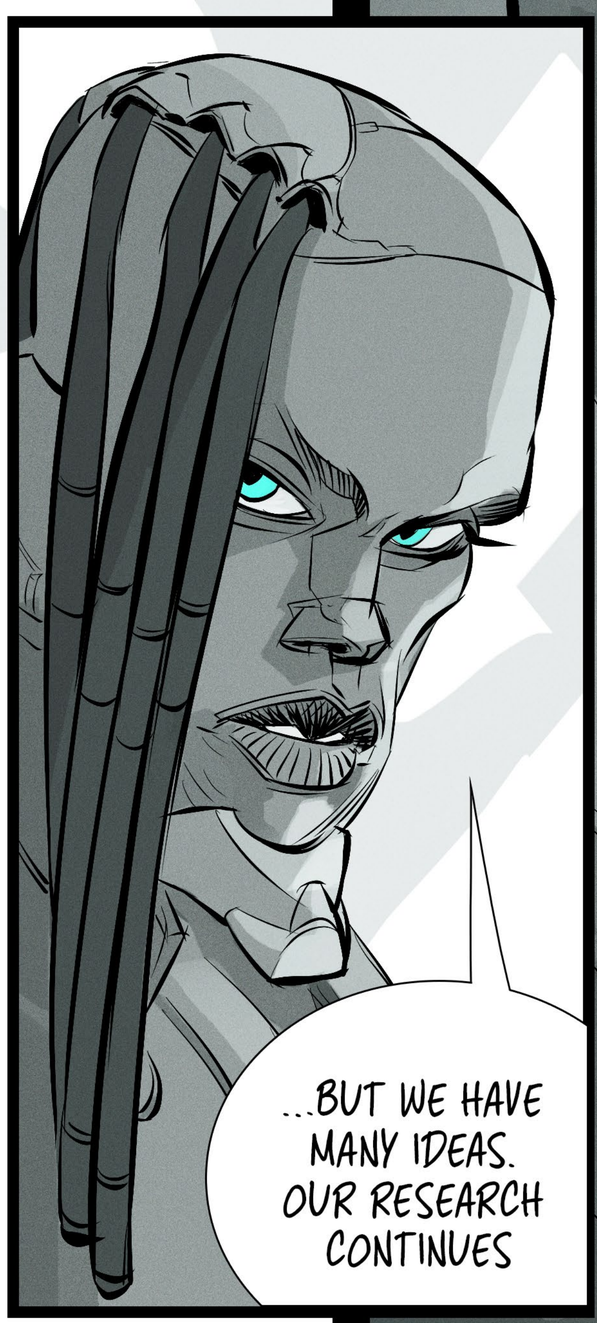
THAT IS WHAT WE BELIEVED.

AND YET, THE ENDLESS HAVE CREATED SOME SORT OF WEAPON...



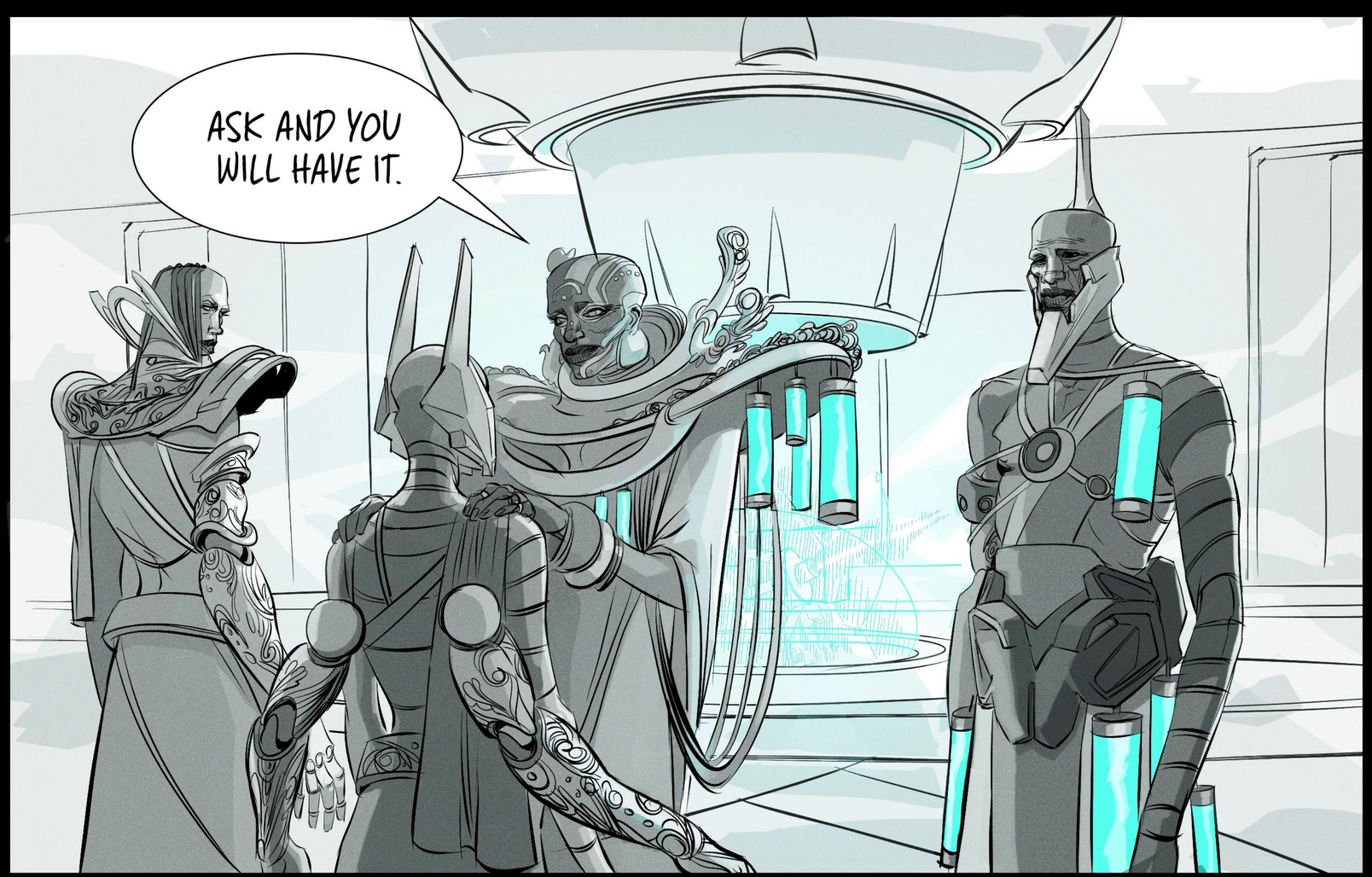


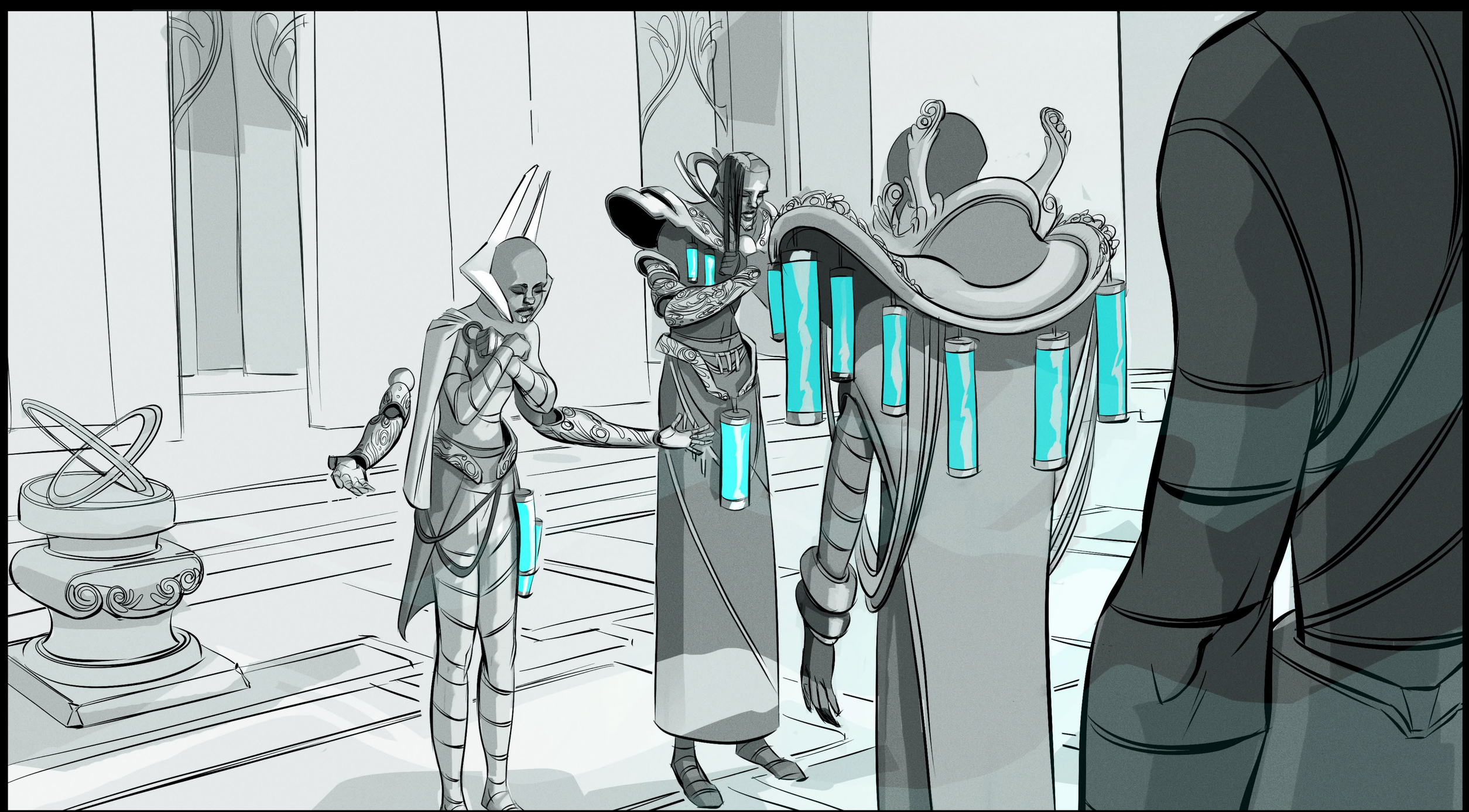
TODAY, NOW...
I HAVE NO ANSWER...


...BUT WE HAVE MANY IDEAS. OUR RESEARCH CONTINUES

WE WILL NOT FAIL YOU. I WILL FIND A WAY!

ANY RESOURCE, ANY AID. ...


ASK AND YOU WILL HAVE IT.

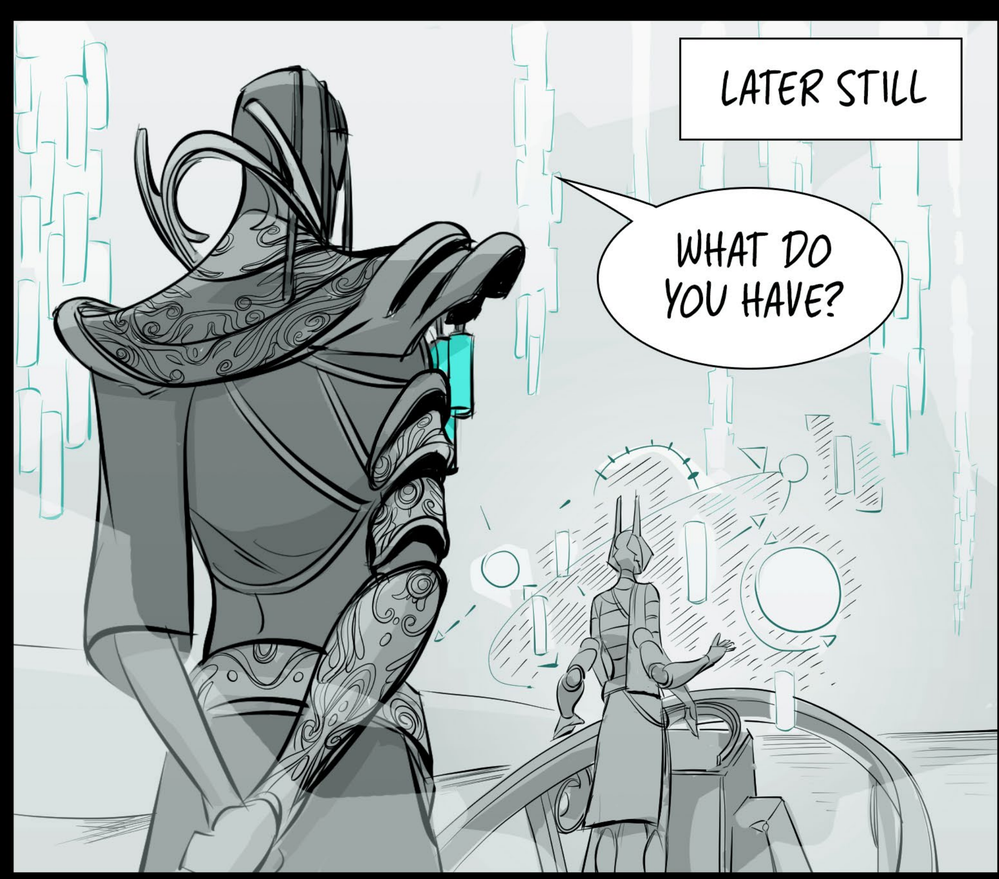


MUCH LATER, DEEP IN A SOBRAN TEMPLE

...HOW CAN WE HOPE TO SAVE OURSELVES, WHEN EVEN OUR GOD IS DYING?

BY KEEPING FAITH IN HER. WE MUST FIND MORE RELICS; SEEK FURTHER. SHE WILL PROVIDE AN ANSWER.

SHE WOULD NOT FORSAKE US. NOT WHILE SHE LIVES.



BACK IN THE IMPERIAL PALACE
SEE IT WITH MY OWN EYES? I WILL NOT! I REMAIN IN THIS ROOM, DISCHARGING MY DUTIES.
YOUR EXCELLENCY, YOU MUST SEE AND APPROVE IT. THERE IS NO OTHER WAY.
PLEASE, FATHER. YOUR EXCELLENCY. YOUR EXAMPLE IS PARAMOUNT
I WOULD SEE THIS. I WOULD TOUCH THE WISDOM OF SOBRA.
PLEASE.
LET US GO.
PREPARE YOURSELVES. THE ENORMITY OF HER PLAN WILL LEAVE YOU STUNNED.
WE HAVE LIVED LONG, AND SEEN MUCH.
WE WILL GO. SHOW ME OUR FUTURE.

SOBRA... SHE HAS CREATED THIS?

THERE ARE RELICS HERE, AND CHAMBERS... ENOUGH TO SAVE THOUSANDS. PERHAPS MILLIONS

WHATEVER CATACLYSM ARRIVES, WE SHALL SLEEP, SECURE IN HER HALLS.

OPEN YOUR MIND...

...FEEL HER STRENGTH ...

WHAT?!

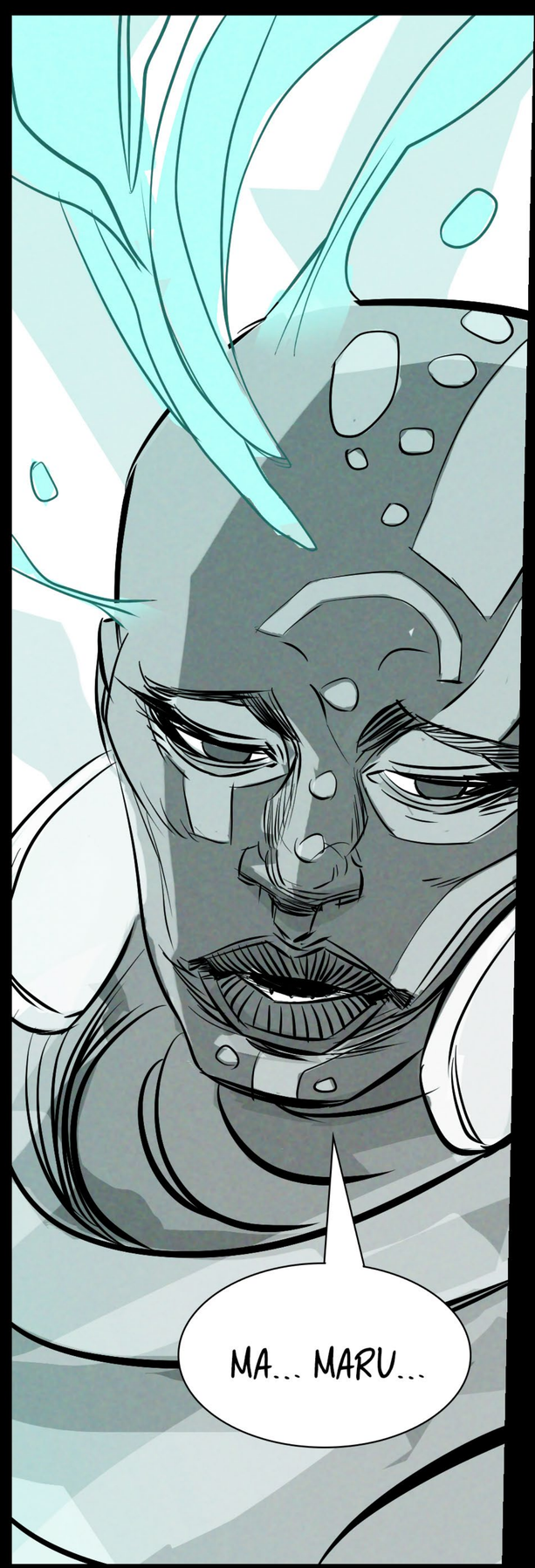
...HER LOVE...

IMPOSSIBLE... IS THIS A MIRACLE TO SAVE US ALL ?

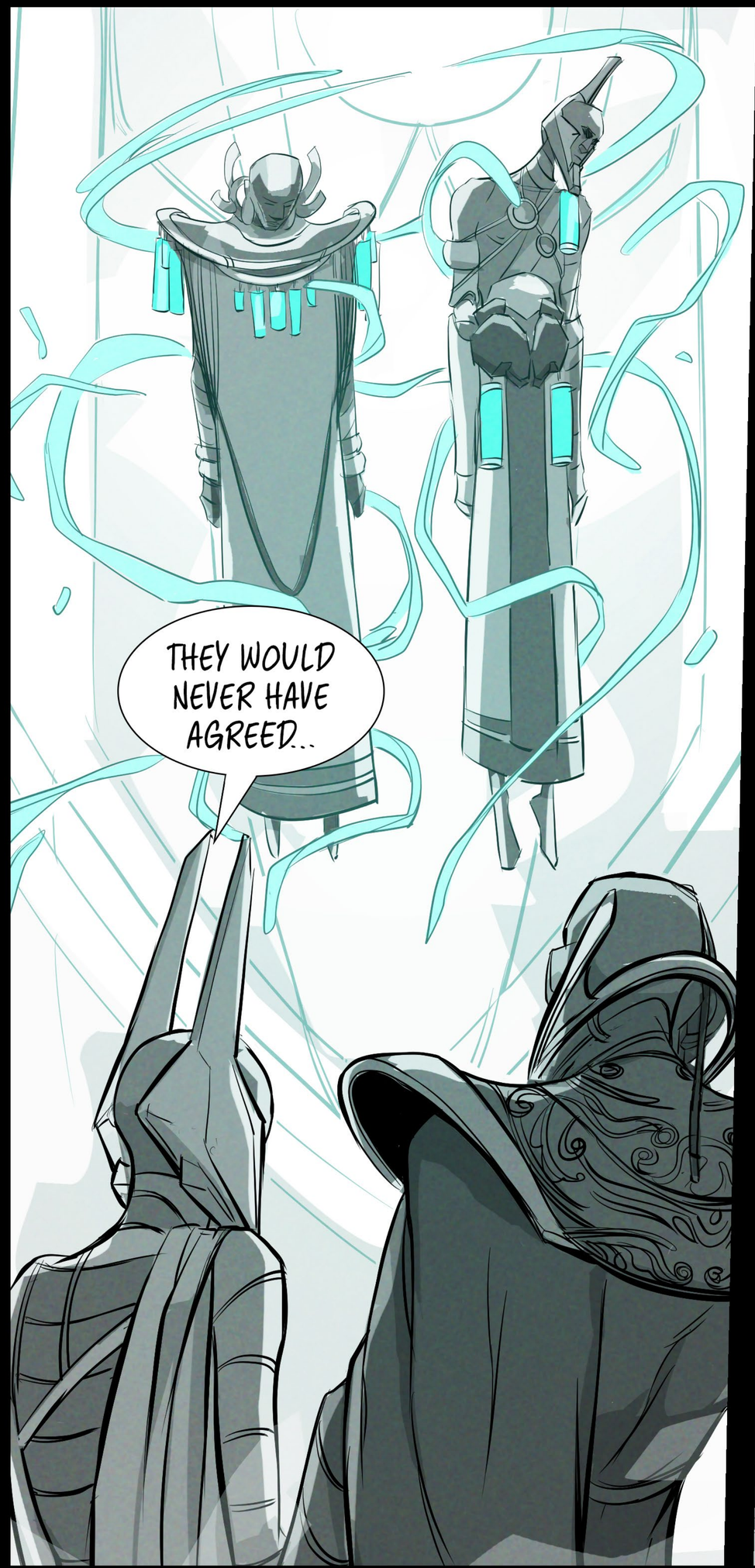
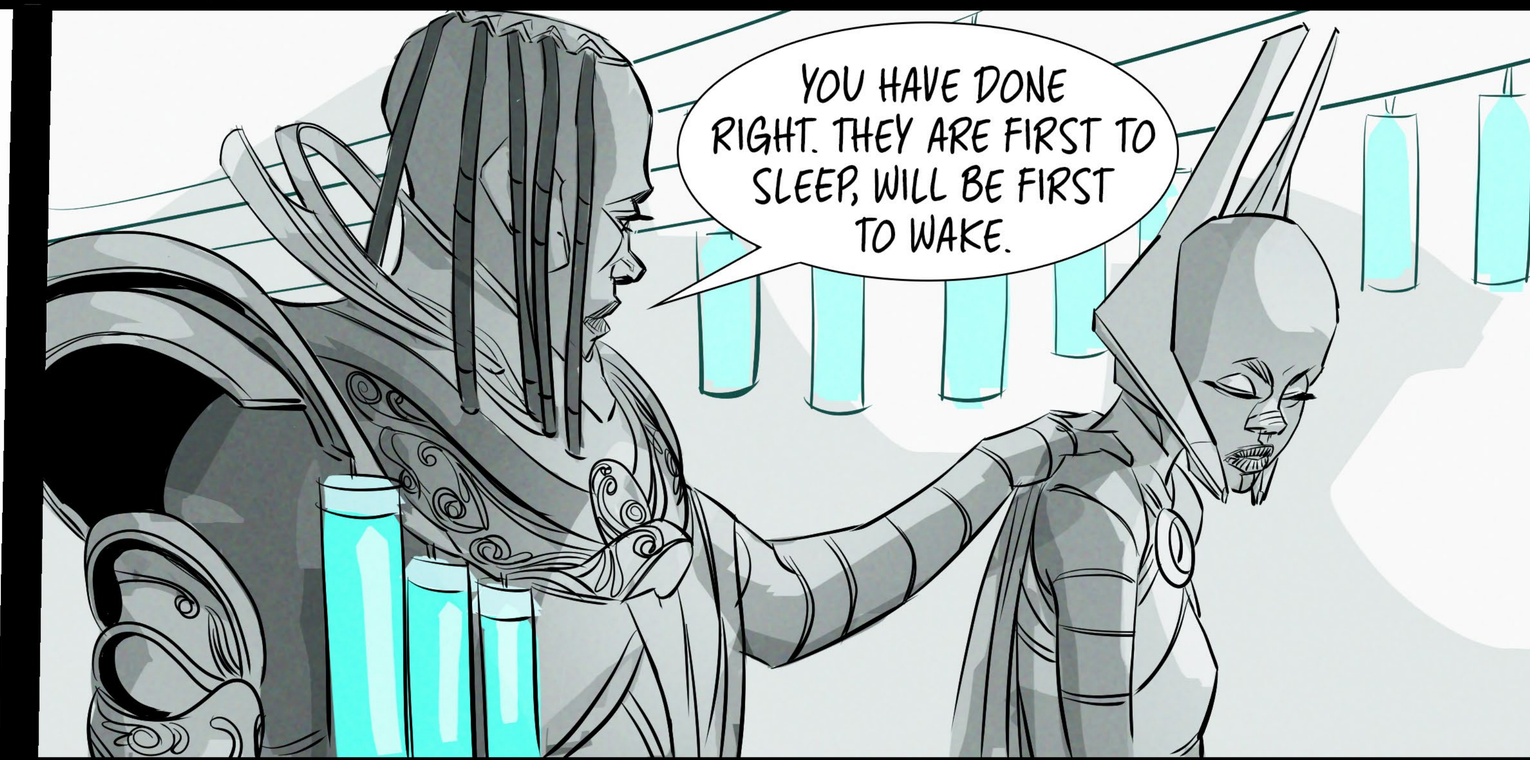
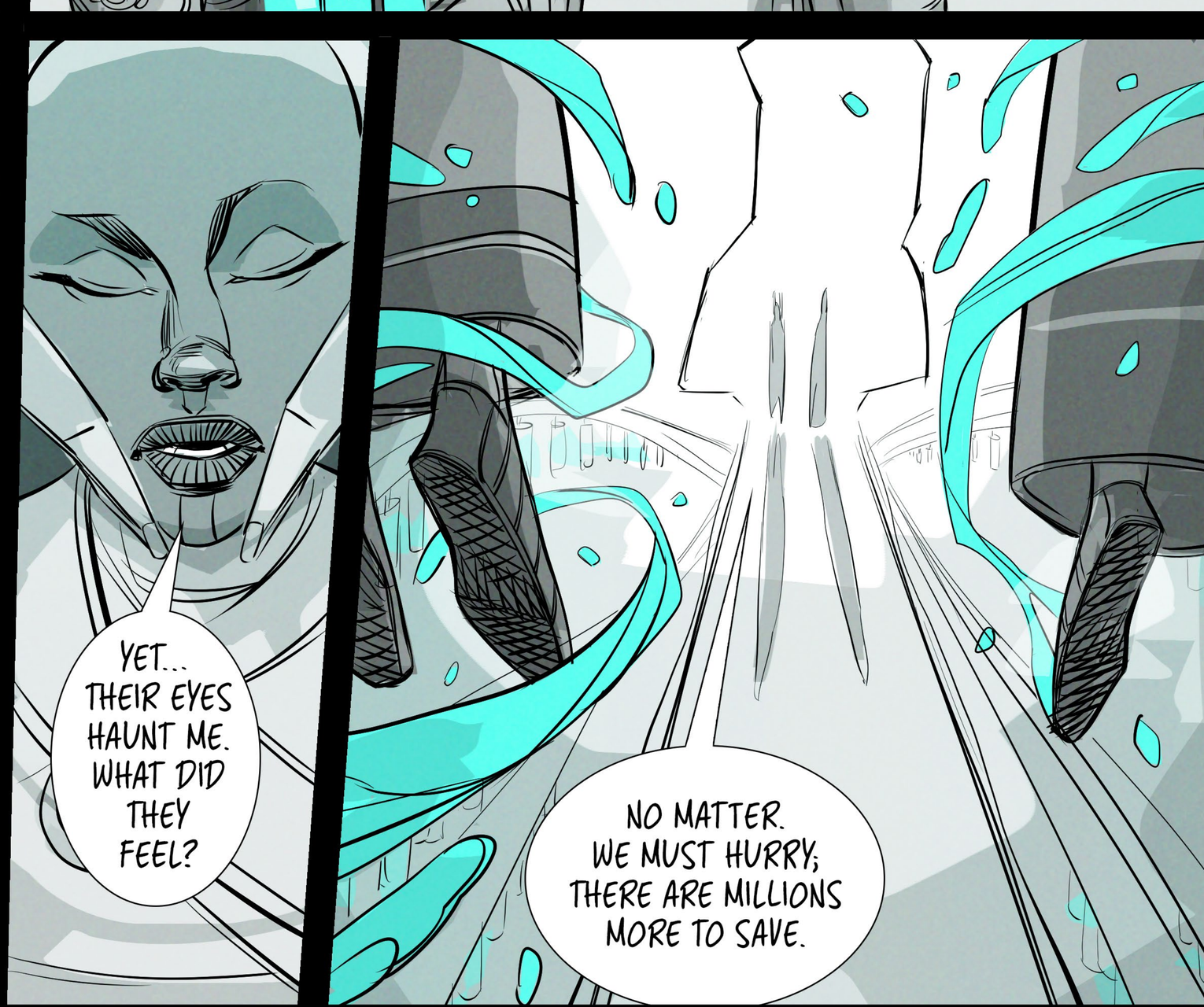
MARUSIA !

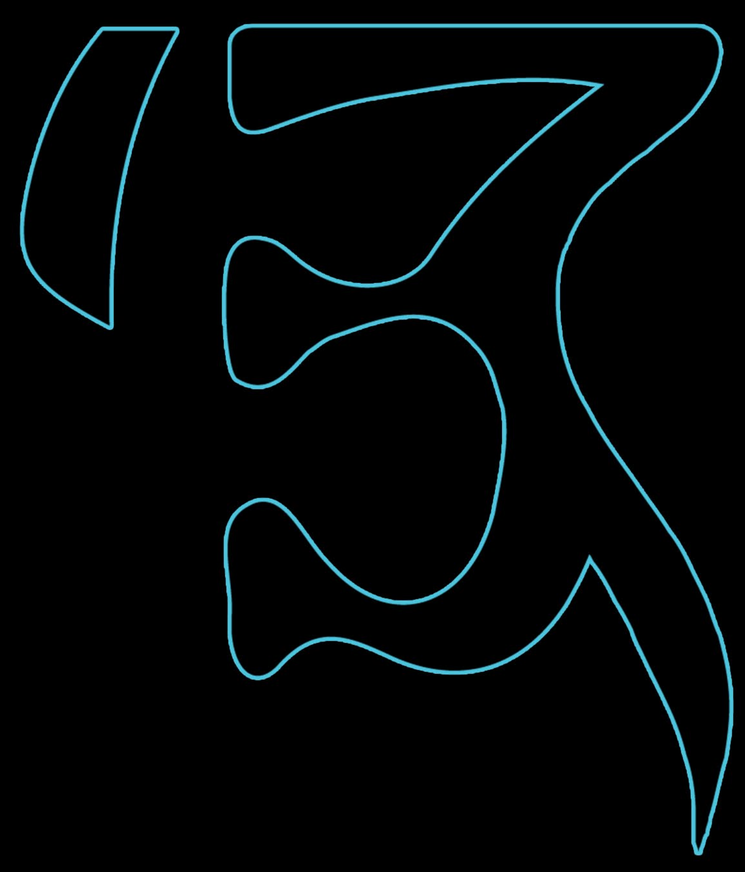
...FEEL HER FORCE SPREADING THROUGH YOUR BODY !

I SAW THE PROPHECY. SOBRA SHARED HER VISION. I SAW OUR FUTURE
MARUSIA! STOP IMMEDIATELY!
MINISTER, I...
...I WILL HOLD YOU RESPONSIBLE...
MY CHILD... WHY...
SORRY, FATHER, MOTHER, I MUST! THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE YOU! TO SAVE EVERYONE...
WE MAY DIE, BUT YOU WILL LIVE ON. YOU WILL REIGN AGAIN!


MA... MARU...

MY DAUGHTER...

I'M SORRY,
I'M SO SORRY...

THEY WOULD NEVER HAVE AGREED...

YOU HAVE DONE RIGHT. THEY ARE FIRST TO SLEEP, WILL BE FIRST TO WAKE.

YET... THEIR EYES HAUNT ME. WHAT DID THEY FEEL?
NO MATTER. WE MUST HURRY; THERE ARE MILLIONS MORE TO SAVE.



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